

31st Fighter Wing: The U.S. Air Force's fighter wing south of the Alps

THE VIGILEER

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Aviano Air Base, Italy

Fly Bys

Telecom services

Telecom Italia offers on-base technical assistance from 9 a.m. to noon Mondays through Wednesdays only at the Military Personnel Flight in Bldg. 1403.

Traffic detour

Beginning Monday, a construction fence will be placed around the perimeter of the Army Personnel Alert Holding Area and part of the old southeast perimeter road. Traffic will be detoured using a temporary road until the construction is complete in November 2007.

Spouse It Up

The next Spouse It Up is a St. Patrick's Day party at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in Area D. For more information, call the Family Support Center at Ext. 5407.

Power of Attorney

Aviano members are only authorized to sell vehicles using a power of attorney during a short notice PCS, a humanitarian PCS and under administrative discharge. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Angela Palazzo at Ext. 4858.



Photo by Airman Nathan Doza

Precision work

Senior Airman Ricardo Reveles, 31st Communications Squadron, replaces a T1 circuit card from a Broadmore multi-plexor. The multi-plexor keeps Aviano connected by providing communications between different areas of the base.

Bird flu facts: How to protect yourself

By Capt. Jonathan Friedman
USAFE News Service

A global outbreak of disease – that is what many people think when they hear the words ‘bird flu.’ But is it really the next pandemic or just “fowl” play?

Properly named avian influenza, this virus has spurred global awareness and growing concerns about the possibility of the virus

changing into a form that passes efficiently from person to person.

“This specific strain of ‘bird flu’ – also known as H5N1 – has proven itself devastating to domestic poultry wherever it’s been identified,” said Lt. Col. Carol Fisher, U.S. Air Forces in Europe Command Public Health officer. “And although millions of birds have

See Flu, Page 7

Walking group: Women, Infants and Children hosts a walking adventure from 11:15 a.m. to noon Fridays. Call Ext. 7473 for more info.

31st FW Sortie Board

sortie: n, a flight of a combat aircraft on a mission

	Hours	Sorties
31st FW goal	1109.5	857
	106.7	46

Information current as of Thursday.



Talking trash

From recycling paper products to proper waste disposal, keeping Aviano tidy takes work from everyone on base.

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A dog's life

The 31st Security Forces Squadron military working dog handlers train man's best friend to protect Aviano people and buildings.

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31st Fighter Wing

Commander's Corner

By Brig. Gen. Robert Yates
31st Fighter Wing commander

World's Finest Warriors – It's been a couple weeks since I've been able to sit down and write. I was on leave last week and am getting caught up on everything that has gone on while I was away.

The big event that I missed, but heard all about, was Friday's wing annual awards banquet. Each and every nominee has done outstanding work during the past year – thank you for all you have done to accomplish the mission and help our communities. Congratulations to the award winners – your hard work paid off and I'm proud of each of you!

We also had outstanding news in the promotion arena – the major and senior master sergeant selection list both came out recently. At Aviano, 10 captains were selected for promotion to major – that's a 100 percent selection rate in the promotion zone for Aviano! In addition, we had 18 master sergeants selected for promotion to senior master sergeant – selection rate again well above both the USAFE and Air Force average – well done! Kudos to our selectees and their chain of command for taking care of MY people...as it must be.

This is another example of great things happening to the World's Finest! In line with this thought, the Air Force Assistance Fund officially kicked off and runs through April 7. This is a wonderful opportunity to support foundations that were created to support us. The charities all benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retired Airmen, surviving spouses and families. I ask you all to be as generous as possible and to remember that when you donate to the Air Force Village Foundation, Air Force Aid

Society, General and Mrs. LeMay Foundation and/or Air Force Enlisted Village – you are directly and positively impacting organizations that directly and positively support your Air Force family. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Tonight I'll be at the La Bella Vista Club with our military and honorary squadron commanders. We're going to spend some time catching up on community happenings, and then the battle, i.e., Crud Tournament, is on! We're going to expose our Italian friends to this time-honored Air Force tradition – the game of Crud. It will be a great time and I'm looking forward to challenging the defending champions from the 555th Fighter Squadron – Maj. Paul Murray, Captains Scott Walker and Aaron Saul and 1st Lt. Benjamin Couchman. To them and to all competitors I provide this counsel – bring it, but don't bring it weak!

One final note – DUIs. Folks, we need to focus on teamwork, taking care of each other and doing so in a positive manner. No DUIs. No DUIs. No DUIs. Take care of each other. Plan ahead if your plan includes partying with a designated driver. And call me at 632-4811 or AADD if that fails. I'm there for you.

Time to sign off – have a great weekend. Take time to enjoy your weekend, and take care of your families and friends. I'll see you back at the ranch Monday morning, ready to tackle the next set of challenges that are bound to come our way. Until then, God Bless!



Aviano Airman of the Week

Name: Senior Airman Rhea Dilig
Unit: 31st Aerospace Medicine Squadron
Job: Bioenvironmental engineering technician
Hometown: Glendale, Calif.
Family: Mom, Alice; Dad, Lito; and Raymond, brother
Hobbies: Traveling, watching movies and spending time with friends
Why joined: For the education benefits and to be independent



Aviano recognizes top performers, volunteers

By Senior Airman Sarah Gregory
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Aviano announced its selections of the year during the Annual Awards Banquet held at the La Bella Vista Club March 3.

With categories ranging from Volunteer of the Year to Airman of the Year, the award ceremonies recognized nominees' involvement in the 31st Fighter Wing mission and the Aviano community.

"All members stationed here work hard all of the time," said Master Sgt. Daniel Borkowski, award dinner coordinator. "It's important to recognize these award winners for their contributions to the wing and to demonstrate why we are truly the World's Finest."

Nominated for her technical volunteer work with the Sacile hospital, veterinary clinic and the medical clinic, Beth Simmons, a Registered Nurse, has found volunteering to be a learning experience.

"Volunteering has allowed me to develop skills that I would not have been able to if I was actively involved in the workforce in the U.S.," she said. "I am learning managerial and administrative duties that could be very valuable in the future."

Although she originally began volunteering to keep up with her nursing skills, Mrs. Simmons found another reason to keep at it.

"I soon learned that volunteering was a great way to meet new people with similar interests. The staff members of the medical clinic, Sacile hospital, veterinary clinic, American Red Cross and Family Support Center have been amazing and very supportive."

Winning Aviano's Technical Volunteer made Mrs. Simmons feel "very honored," a sentiment she shares with fellow award winner, Staff Sgt. Amanda Johnson.

"It was simply awesome to be recognized," said Aviano's newest NCO of the Year. "I was in complete awe because I have never been recognized at such a level."

As a 31st Maintenance Operations Squadron base engine man-

ager, Sergeant Johnson is responsible for tracking required maintenance for installed and uninstalled F-16 engines. She said that no matter what jobs Airmen hold, they are vital to the success of the Air Force.

"Get past the 'not knowing' stage and realize exactly what an asset you are to the Air Force. No matter your career specialty, everyone plays a critical role in completing the mission," Sergeant Johnson said.

Overall, 13 awards were handed out at the banquet, seven of which were presented to the 31st Mission Support Group.

With a theme of "Honoring Aviano's Finest," the awards banquet played an important role in taking the time to acknowledge the dedication of the Aviano community.

"This is one of the best parts of my job - giving people the recognition they deserve for their hard work and a job well done," said Col. Steven Schrader, 31st Fighter Wing vice commander.

31st Fighter Wing Annual Award Winners:

Airman: Senior Airman Sheila Fish, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; NCO: Staff Sgt. Amanda Johnson, 31st Maintenance Operations Squadron; Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Lisa Finuff, 31st Medical Support Squadron; First Sergeant: Master Sgt. Jeffrey J. Jacobson, 31st AMXS; Civilian Category I: Anna Jackson, 31st Services Squadron; Civilian Category II: Gianpietro Bulli, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron, CGO: Capt. Joshua D. DeMotts, 31st CES; Honor Guard: Senior Airman Alvin Franklin, 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron; Wage Grade Category: Tiberio Mazzega Garofolo, 31st Maintenance Squadron; Civilian Specialist: Gianfranco Patui, 31st Contracting Squadron; Technical Volunteer: Beth Simmons, Non-Technical Volunteer: Lynn Maucieri and Active Duty Volunteer: Senior Airman Wendy Day, 31st Communication Squadron.

Gospel service: A Women's History Month gospel service is at 10 a.m. Sunday at the base theater. Call Ext. 5211 for more info.

Congratulations to Aviano's newest majors

Chris Busque, 31st Mission Support Squadron; Sarah Geiger, 31st Fighter Wing; Chadwick Conn, Area Defense Counsel; Janette Ketchum, 724th Air Mobility Squadron; Thomas Pagano, 555th Fighter Squadron; Timothy Palmer, 510th Fighter Squadron; Eric Scharnowski, 510th FS; Christopher Southard, 510th FS; Steven Tait, 603rd Air Control Squadron and Tara Valentine, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Det. 531.

Congratulations to Aviano's newest senior master sergeants

Curtis Allen, 31st Maintenance Squadron; Mark Atlow, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron; Jose Barraza, 31st MXS; Jeffrey Decker, 31st MXS; Michael Gruber, 31st Dental Squadron; Yvonne Ferry, 31st Operations Support Squadron; Sam Hill, 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron; Darren Jorgenson, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Joseph Knowles, 31st Maintenance Operations Squadron; Bobby McGregor, 31st Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Stacy Miller, 31st LRS; Eric Milliner, 31st MOS; Kevin Peterson, 31st MXS; Audrey Powell, 31st Medical Support Squadron; Kim Rauls, 31st Communications Squadron; Robert Regan, 31st CS; Ben Roberson, 31st Security Forces and Paul Vergeldt, 31st AMXS.

USAFE announces annual award nominees

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany - Perhaps after he arrives here March 20 for the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Annual Awards Banquet, Tech. Sgt. Alvaro Magana said the reality may finally settle in that he has been nominated as one of USAFE's most outstanding Airmen.

"When I fly up to Germany it'll start hitting me," said Sergeant Magana, one of seven representatives from the 39th Air Base Wing from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, who will be competing for USAFE honors in the category of Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. The other categories are Airman, Senior NCO, Company Grade Officer, First Sergeant, and Civilian - Categories I and II. USAFE leaders will announce the winners at the USAFE Annual Awards Banquet on March 24 at the Ramstein Air Base Officers' Club.

Winning at USAFE and continuing on for possible Air Force-level honors is a possibility, but simply being among the 83 nominees is a "great honor," said Sergeant Magana, the noncommissioned officer in charge of bioenvironmental engineering with the 39th

Medical Group at Incirlik. "Last year I never even thought of winning at the wing level. It was a great honor just to win at the group level."

Staff Sgt. Rebecca Baker knows how he feels at this point, and she also knows what's in store for the nominees emotionally during their upcoming week here leading up to the awards banquet.

"It was unbelievable. I'll never forget that week -- it was amazing," said Sergeant Baker, who was named the USAFE Airman of the Year for 2004.

When her name was called out as a winner, "I was completely overwhelmed ... the red carpet, the honor guard and the flash of the cameras. I was so touched that I was even nominated to be there in the first place," Sergeant Baker said.

And the feeling continues. Sergeant Baker, an armament weapons journeyman at Aviano, said it's always in the back of her mind that people thought highly enough of her to nominate her for the award, and that inspires her to maintain high standards both personally and professionally at all times.

Waste abuse: Keeping Aviano clean takes work

By Staff Sgt. Samuel Song
31st Civil Engineer Squadron

Aviano has made outstanding efforts with the Combat Proud program and keeping the base looking its best takes commitment and effort on everyone's part. Aviano members are reminded to continue following proper recycling procedures to keep the base appearance and environment at "World's Finest" levels.

Users must read the posted signs on the containers to see what goes in each bin. Unacceptable garbage is being placed in and around the containers and contractors aren't responsible for cleaning up these areas. Although problems are found base-wide, several areas are continually mistreated, including the dorm areas, Army Air Force Exchange Services food court, bowling alley, Department of Defense Dependent Schools, dining halls and Zulu loop.

Members are also reminded to practice proper recycling procedures at home. People should not bring trash from home on base.

Under DoDI 4715.4, Pollution Prevention and service solid waste management manuals, it is our duty and responsibility to adhere to local environmental laws. If this problem persists, the local disposing agency may even discontinue disposal service in the near future. Furthermore, not following waste disposal guidelines is an offense to the ECAMP

environmental findings program.

The 31st Civil Engineer Squadron needs everyone's help to comply with waste disposal guidelines.

For questions concerning waste disposal, visit the civil engineer Web site at <https://avo-intranet/CivilEngineering/wastecontract/mainpage.htm> or call Ext. 5770.

Disposal locations

Recycling center: Open from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday, located on the perimeter road in Area F, Ext. 5770.

Accepted materials: paper/cardboard, wood, green waste, plastic, construction waste and bulk trash.

Auto Skills Center: Open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, located behind outdoor recreation in Area F, Ext. 2277.

Accepted materials: Oil, air/oil filter, tires, car batteries, anti-freeze, metal scraps and other automotive parts.

DRMO: Open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, next to the recycling center, Ext. 5082.

Accepted materials: Tires, electronics and metal scraps.

***Note:** For disposal of paint, toner cartridges, fluorescent light bulbs and other hazardous waste, call Lonnie Duke, hazardous waste program manager, at Ext. 5393. For additional information on refuse collection procedures off-base, call John Thomas or Giovanna Coppola at Ext. 5394.

Do's and Don'ts



DO flatten cardboard boxes before disposing them.



DO read the signs posted on each container.



DON'T dispose bulk waste inside of refuse enclosures.

Women's health fair: A Women's History Month health fair is from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the base exchange foyer.

Flu, from page 1 —

died from this virus, human cases are still rare."

Colonel Fisher noted that the human cases identified with this strain have primarily been found where people have had close interaction with sick or dead birds that were also infected with the same strain.

Currently, the bird flu virus does not have the ability to spread effectively from human to human. Nevertheless, proper handling of raw poultry and basic personal hygiene can effectively protect a person.

"Studies have found that simple steps, like frequent hand washing with soap

and water and good respiratory etiquette, can effectively protect a person from many infections," said the colonel.

Bird flu can be contracted through the respiratory system and possibly orally (eating raw or undercooked poultry or poultry products). It is primarily spread by direct contact with saliva, nasal secretions and feces of infected birds.

The colonel said if a pandemic strain of influenza is identified, a vaccine will take six to nine months to be developed. However, there are drugs that can help reduce complications of the human infection. Antiviral drugs like Tamiflu can be used to

ease symptoms of the virus if given within 48 hours of initial symptoms.

Outbreaks of bird flu have occurred recently among poultry in a number of countries in Asia, as well as several countries within USAFE, including Italy, Germany, France, Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria and Greece. Human infections with the virus have been reported in Turkey, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia and Iraq. These cases have primarily resulted from direct contact with infected poultry or surfaces contaminated with their feces.

Building good body resistance also goes a long way in preventing any type of influ-

enza. This can be achieved through a balanced diet, adequate rest, regular exercise, good personal hygiene and not smoking.

"It's important that we remember to not only practice good personal hygiene, but that we remain aware of the current situation and use proper food-handling techniques when preparing any raw meat," she said. "These two practices are always important."

For more information on avian influenza, go to www.pandemicflu.gov.

(Portions of this story were contributed by Staff Sgt. Melissa Koskovich, U.S. Central Command Air Forces – Forward Public Affairs)

Boy Scouts learn survival skills in the wild



Photo by Senior Airman Colleen Wronek

Austin Fortner, 13, foreground, and Eric Milliner, 12, practice making fire using materials they gathered in the woods. The Boy Scouts earned their wilderness survival merit badge last weekend and learned preservation techniques in case they ever get lost.

By Senior Airman Colleen Wronek
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Aviano Boy Scouts learned valuable life lessons last weekend during a scouting trip to the Dolomiti national park near Andreis.

Boy Scouts from 11- to 17-years-old earned their wilderness survival merit badge by learning self-preservation in the wild.

"We are teaching them how to be self-sufficient in life. Scouts are about learning leadership skills and being independent," said scoutmaster Senior Master Sgt. Steve Laser.

Tech. Sgt. Rusty Hayes also went on the scouting trip. Using his experience as a 31st Operations Support Squadron Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape instructor, he taught the scouts survival techniques like building a fire from scratch and how to signal for help using anything shiny or reflective.

"We taught them the psychological will to survive, which means they learned how to stay motivated if they get lost in the woods. We taught them how to find, purify and store water, the signs of hypothermia and frost bite, how to build natural and poncho shelters, and how to find food and make snares," Sergeant Hayes said. "A lot of what we are teaching them is preparation. The more prepared they are, the higher the chance they will have to survive."

On Saturday, the boys built shelters. "It was raining Sunday and the boys slept in the shelters without getting wet," said Tech. Sgt. Charles Fetterolf, Boy Scout committee chairperson.

Before the hands-on portion, the Boy Scouts were taught in a classroom setting on the proper way of applying the survival techniques. Then they went outdoors and gathered needed materials. While learning how to build a fire, the scouts learned how to gather dry wood from a dead tree, as well as how to dry out wet grasses and bark.

"Learning how to make fire was a lot of fun," said Eric Milliner, 12. "Getting the fire to start was easy, but it took a while to keep it going."

Instead of spending the weekend in front of the television, the boys not only enjoyed the outdoors, but learned how to lead each other.

"The outdoors is the best classroom there is," Sergeant Laser said. "It gets the kids outside and, while they are having fun, they are learning something deeper."

For more information on the Aviano Boy Scouts, call Sergeant Laser at 0434-961-190 or Sergeant Fetterolf at 0434-783-095.

Commissioning: A commissioning workshop is at 9 a.m. Thursday at the education center. For more information, call Ext. 5162.

No trespassing at combat arms firing range

The Aviano Small Arms Firing Range is off limits to unauthorized personnel and should be considered dangerous at all times. The range, Bldg. 1142, which is located off the Flightline perimeter road adjacent to the Sierra Area, is routinely used to conduct live-fire weapons training. Trespassing at any time is illegal and dangerous. Anyone needing access to the firing range area must contact the Combat Arms NCOIC at Ext. 7887.

E' proibito l'accesso del personale non autorizzato al poligono di tiro della Base di Aviano che e' da considerarsi zona pericolosa costante. Il poligono, Edificio 1142, e' situato in Aeroporto lungo la strada perimetrale adiacente l'Area Serra ed, e' spesso utilizzato per l'addestramento del tiro al bersaglio. L'accesso abusivo e' quindi illegale pericoloso. Chiunque necessita di accedere al Poligono di Tiro deve contattare il Sottufficiale addetto al Combat Arms, Tel. 632-7887.

Loyal four-legged friends protect Aviano

By Senior Airman Colleen Wronek
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

With their powerful jaws, strong sense of smell and unwavering loyalty, they are not only man's best friend, but also an incredible asset to the 31st Security Forces Squadron.

Aviano's seven explosive and two narcotic working dogs prevent crime and help protect the base.

As part of their mission to provide protection to Aviano's personnel and property as well as to be a deterrent for drug users and terrorists, the dogs are always training and patrolling the base.

"While we are patrolling, we might do random searches in base parking lots, buildings, searches at the gate or do base entry point checks," said Staff Sgt. Justin Devaney, 31st SFS military working dog handler. "We return back to the kennel a few times a day to check on the other dogs, exercise and train."

Besides searching buildings and cars, the dogs patrol along the perimeter fence and can respond to any incident at any time.

All of Aviano's military working dogs are dual certified, which means they are all trained to attack and to find either explosives or narcotics. Dogs can't be trained to find both narcotics and explosives.

"The concept is stimulus. We train dogs to find the explosive or a person's scent and they receive rewards for detection," said Staff

Sgt. Gene Fonseca, 31st SFS military working dog trainer.

When dogs find something suspicious, their reaction is passive. Instead of scratching, they will sit. "If there is a bomb, we don't want them to disturb anything," Sergeant Devaney said.

"The dogs are also used as a deterrent when capturing a bad guy. When the dog is present, people behave 99 percent of the time because they don't want to be bitten," Sergeant Fonseca said.

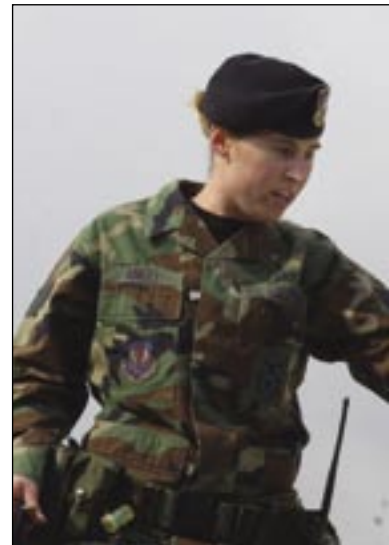
Sergeant Devaney works with two military working dogs – Nico, a four-year-old narcotics dog, and Allan, an 11-year-old explosives dog. During his 12-hour shift, Sergeant Devaney works each dog for six hours a day.

Aviano's military working dogs are permanently assigned here, but when a handler receives an assignment, the dog stays and receives a new handler. "As the dogs get older, they get used to changing handlers. They realize that's the way it's going to be," said Sergeant Fonseca.

Military working dogs do deploy with their handlers, however. "When a handler goes to a deployed location [their dog] goes with them. For example, we just got back from Torino where we were supporting the Olympics," Sergeant Fonseca said.

The military working dogs are exercised often and are constantly trained in obedience and other skills.

"They must be exercised every day. The



Staff Sgt. Liberty Angel, 31st Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, guides Rico on the obstacle course here. Military working dogs use the skills needed to jump through windows and tunnels.

obstacle course is checked every day for safety. It is the handler's responsibility to make sure the dog doesn't get hurt," Sergeant Fonseca said. "The dogs also spend an hour of detection training and other types of training such as bite work, which is done at different levels."

Bite work consists of using a soft sleeve, hard sleeve or a bite suit.

A soft sleeve is when a dog uses a weaker bite because it's an arm without protection. A hard sleeve is more advanced, consisting of a large fake arm and the dog can use more pressure. The bite suit is a giant suit that the dog is allowed to bite anywhere except on the hands and the head.

In order to become a military working dog handler, security forces members must cross train into the specialized career field. Handlers must have prior security forces experience.

"Because of the dog's stronger senses, they can sense more than a person," Sergeant Fonseca said. "Sometimes it's better to have a military working dog as your partner."



Photo by Airman Liliana Moreno

Staff Sgt. Liberty Angel, 31st Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, rewards her military working dog, Rico. Military working dogs are trained in obedience and exercised daily.

viano, deter crime



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth

st Security Forces Squadron military
Rico over a set of stairs while training
. The obstacle course teaches military
ded to perform their duties, such as
climbing stairs and running through

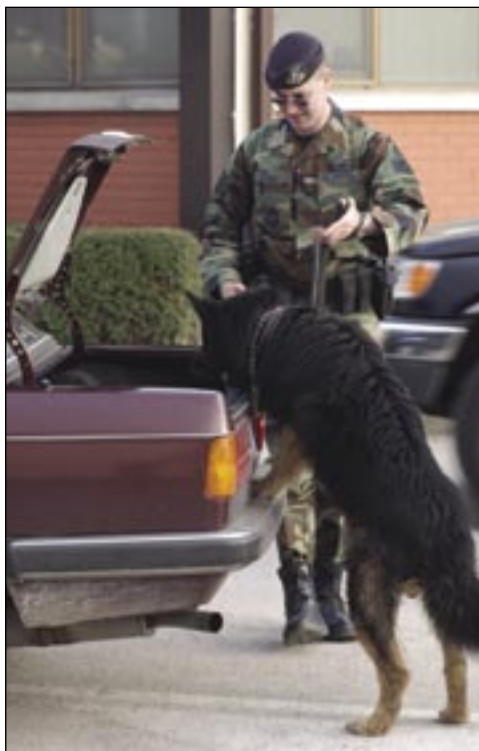


Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth

Staff Sgt. Justin Devaney, 31st
Security Forces Squadron military
working dog handler, instructs Allan
to search a vehicle trunk.



Photo by Airman Nathan Doza

Staff Sgt. Justin Devaney, 31st Security Forces Squadron, instructs Nico to attack someone wearing a bite suit. The bite suit is made to withstand a more advanced bite without hurting the person in the suit. During "bite work," the dogs are trained to attack when necessary.

Parking

The 31st Security Forces Squadron is enforcing Aviano parking rules. People must ensure they are parked in designated slots. If the space has a time limit, people must use their blue time wheels or write the time they parked on a slip of paper and display it in the front window. Time wheels can be purchased at the base exchange. Violators will be ticketed. Facility managers are also conducting their annual review of Area One and Two reserved parking slots. The review will be completed March 31.

Liturgy

MSgr. Bagnasco, Military Ordinary of the Italian Armed Forces, is hosting a Liturgy of the Word service from 3:45 to 4:20 p.m. Monday at the Area F Italian Chapel.

Registration

Registration for University of Maryland University College Europe Term Four is Monday through March 24. Term Four on-site classes are from March 27 through May 20 and online distance educa-

tion courses are from April 3 to July 7. For more information, visit the education center.

PC Wars

PC Wars, an all night computer gaming event, begins March 17 in the community center. The theme is St. Patrick's Day and participants are encouraged to wear green or have green on their computer. Games include Quake 3, Wolfenstein, Enemy Territory and America's Army. Free food and drinks will be provided and prizes will be awarded. To sign up or for more information, visit www.avianopcwars.com.

School registration

School registration for new kindergarten and first grade students not already registered at Aviano Elementary School is from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday in the elementary school office. Registration packages for new students must be picked up at the elementary school before the registration dates.

School registration for all returning students in grades one through 12 is from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 28-29 in the

Aviano Elementary School gym. Parents must sign up for school transportation with the school bus office and must reapply for free and reduced lunches with the school's officer.

For more information, call the following offices: Aviano Elementary School at Ext. 5616; Aviano Middle School at Ext. 5777; Aviano High School at Ext. 5877; School Bus Office at Ext. 5152; and School Officer at Ext. 5261.

Aviation camp

A Teen Aviation Camp is scheduled for teens who will be high school sophomores or juniors in the next school year and are interested in attending the Air Force Academy or making the Air Force a career. The camp is June 3-9 and applications must be in by March 17. For more information, call Ext. 5823 or 5994.

FTAC position

The 31st Mission Support Squadron is looking for a motivated staff sergeant or technical sergeant to fill the NCO in-charge position at the First Term Airmen Center. Applications must be turned in to Tech. Sgt. Victoriano Rodriguez by March 17. For more information, call Ext. 5249 or Ext. 5577.

Awards dinner

The Maintenance Professional of the Year awards banquet is at 6 p.m. March 18 in Hangar One. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 for senior non-commissioned officers, \$20 for NCOs and \$18 for Airmen. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Frey at Ext. 8562.

Support group

A sexual assault, domestic abuse and criminal violence support group will have its first meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 21 in Bldg. 220, Area 2. The group is led by survivors and is open to military members, civilians, and dependents over the age of 18. All attendees will remain anonymous and mili-

tary members may attend in civilian clothes. For more information, call the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at Ext. 7272.

La Leche League

The La Leche League meets at 6 p.m. March 23 in the chapel education center, Area One, Bldg. 168. The group welcomes all breast feeding and pregnant women. Babies and children are welcome at the meetings and snacks are provided. For more information call 0434 -755-606 or 348-242-5373 or e-mail LLLAviano@yahoo.com.

Resume writing

The Family Support Center is hosting a resume writing class from 10 a.m. to noon March 24. The class teaches various resume formats, key words and the importance of a cover letter. To sign up, or for more information, call Ext. 5407 or e-mail sylvia.flores@aviano.af.mil.

Heritage month

The Military Equal Opportunity office is looking for volunteers and project coordinators for May's Asian Pacific Heritage Month. For more information or to volunteer, call MEO at Ext. 5740.

Equipment upgrade

Due to an upgrade in mammography equipment and the move to the new hospital, the 31st Medical Group won't have mammogram capability from Wednesday through June 15. If you are high risk, feel a lump, or are being followed up for an existing condition and need a mammogram now or during this time frame, call 0434-30-5000 to make an appointment.

Passover service

The U.S. Army post Caserma Ederle has a Jewish community sponsoring Passover seders April 12 and 13. Accommodations are available on base or at nearby hotels. For more information, call Lt. Col. Stephen November at 335-794-0564 or the Vicenza chaplain's office at 0444-71-7519 or DSN 634-7719.

Reel Times

Today, 6 p.m. - "Fun with Dick and Jane" Rated PG-13 - A wealthy couple loses their source of income, causing both to turn to a life of crime. Starring: Jim Carrey, Tea Leoni

Today, 8:30 p.m. - "Underworld: Evolution" Rated R - While an ancient war wages, a vampire and a lycan hybrid try to unlock the secrets of their bloodlines. Their forbidden love takes them into a battle to end all wars. Starring: Kate Beckinsale, Scott Speedman

Saturday, 7 p.m. - "Munich" Rated R - During the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, Germany, 11 Israeli athletes are taken hostage and murdered by a terrorist group. In retaliation, the Israeli government recruits agents to find and execute those responsible. Starring: Eric Bana, Daniel Craig

Sunday, 7 p.m. - "The Ringer" Rated PG-13 - Steve Barker sinks to a new low when he attempts to rig the Special Olympics. Barker soon finds his fellow Olympians are not only better athletes, but better people. Starring: Johnny Knoxville, Brian Cox

Wednesday, 7 p.m. - "Munich" Rated R

Thursday, 7 p.m. - "Underworld Evolution" Rated R

(Titles and times are courtesy of www.aafes.com, and are subject to change.)

Fly Bys

Local area events

• Bobsledding in Zoncolan, Udine, runs through Sunday. For more information, visit www.promotur.org.

• A gardening fair runs through Monday at the Pordenone fairgrounds. For more information, visit www.fierapordeone.it.

Art exhibit

A Gauguin/Van Gogh exhibit is in Brescia until March 28. Tickets should be purchased in advance. For ticket information, call 0438-21-306. For more information, visit www.lineadombra.it.

Antique markets

Two all-day historical antique markets are held Sunday. One antique market is in Portobuffolè, which is 40 minutes south of Aviano. For more information, visit www.borghitalia.it. Another antique market is in Asolo, which is past Montebelluna. For more information, visit www.asolo.it.

Butterflies

A butterfly exhibit near Tolmezzo opens March 18. Tolmezzo is on the way to Tarvisio. For more information, visit www.casaperlefarfalle.it.

Traveling

Visit www.aftravelonline.com for information on airplane and train tickets and hotel reservations.

Frankfurt: International city of contrast

By 1st Lt. Nicole Dubnicay
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Frankfurt am Main, Germany, is a city full of history, and it's progressing into the future as one of the world's most renowned international cities for banking and finance, tourism, and its European travel center.

Founded by the Romans in the first century A.D., Frankfurt became the royal residence to Charlemagne in the eighth century. Established as a trading center since the Roman times, Frankfurt became famous for its city fairs, which drew traveling merchants from all over Europe.

In 1944, World War II air raids left Frankfurt's historical monuments and well-preserved medieval quarter destroyed but many of the landmarks have been restored.

Travel in and out of the city is easy with the Frankfurt International Airport next to two major autobahns and complete with a train station in Terminal One. The city has a complete and easy to navigate U-bahn or subway system which has single-ride or all-day passes available.

The area Hauptwache begins with an 18th century baroque building and surrounding square. The area is a meeting point for the S (train) and U (subway) bahn lines. The Hauptwache leads to the Zeil, renowned for its luxurious shopping area, boasting stores such as Tiffany, Chanel and other designers.

East of the Hauptwach is the old medieval marketplace, Romerberg. From the Hauptwach to the west bank of the Main River, the "Altstadt," or old city, stretches has locations for annual markets and tourism.

Museums lie along the Main River, often called "Museum Embankment." Two Frankfurt museums worth mentioning are the Liebieghaus, which ranks with the Bargello in Florence as one of Europe's most important sculpture museums, and the Stadel Gallery, a premier art gallery containing works from Renoir and Monet.

A springtime garden worth seeing is the Pal-



Courtesy photo

Historic Frankfurt a.m. Main, Germany, is home to Romer plaza, which is an old medieval marketplace.

mengarten park and botanical garden. During the last decade, the gardens have been restored and the conservatories and historic greenhouses were completely reconstructed.

East of the Main River lies alt Sachenshausen, the center of apfel (apple) wine taverns. One of the alt (old) areas in Frankfurt, it's complete with cobblestone streets and renovated traditional buildings. Sachenshausen also holds markets during the day, but is mostly a night-time hangout for those looking for German beers or apfel wine.

The aptly named Romantic Road, or Romantische Strasse, is one of Germany's most popular tourist routes. The road stretches for 290km (180 miles) between Würzburg in the north and Füssen in the foothills of the Bavarian Alps. On the way is a series of medieval villages and 2,000-year-old towns.

There are many tour buses and trains that offer a trip southwest of Frankfurt towards Füssen on the romantic road. Information is available at the Frankfurt Tourism website at www.frankfurt.de.

Balancing between the ancient and modern, serene daytime strolls and thrilling nightlife, Frankfurt is a city of contrast.

Maniago: Twenty minutes north of Aviano, Maniago is home to gothic cathedrals and a museum of ironsmith art and knife production.



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Gregory

The Miramare Castle in **Trieste** was the residence of Archduke Maximilian of Austria.

Information, Tickets and Travel

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- Saturday – Guided Trieste
 - Saturday – Wine and balsamic vinegar tasting and visit to Ferrari Factory
 - March 18 – Guided Milan and Medieval Bergamo
 - March 18 – Castles in Bavaria
 - March 25 – Guided San Marino
- ITT escorts ensure the group arrives

and departs from the destination as scheduled and will do everything possible to make the trip safe and comfortable. Escorts also provide general information about the area. Please note weather conditions and dress accordingly for trips. The ITT staff recommends wearing comfortable shoes because almost all tours involve walking.

Call Ext. 5072 or 5026 for more information.

Aviano gets into the swing of golf

By Senior Airman
Sarah Gregory

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

With spring just around the corner, people can start getting prepared for their warm-weather hobbies. To help the Aviano community get back into the swing of things, the Alpine Golf Course has a jam-packed schedule of activities from golf clinics to lunch outings.

"From March through November, we offer two tournaments a month," said Al Hobrecht, Alpine Golf Course manager. "Tournaments are a mix of scrambles, scotch doubles and individual strokes."

A scotch doubles tournament partners a male and female, while a scramble can be two-, three- or four-person teams. A regular tournament is where every player plays his or her ball from tee to green and every stroke is counted.

While many people have the belief that golfing isn't a workout, fans of the sport beg to differ.

James Clark, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron, said he golfs for the obvious benefit – the exercise. "You're walking three to four miles depending on the course," he said. "Visiting different courses allows you to get some sightseeing in as well. I'm going to Malaga, Spain, in three weeks, specifically to golf, but we'll check out Granada while we are there, too."

Clark said he also enjoys the challenges associated with different courses



Photo by Senior Airman Scherrie Gates

Alpine Golf Course manager Al Hobrecht sets up a tee during a golf lesson. Aviano's golf course offers lessons for all ages and skill levels.

and, of course, talking trash to his golfing partners.

In fact, the communication possibilities that golf offers players is one of the biggest draws to the game.

"Perhaps golf's greatest asset is that it's social," said Hobrecht. "Because it

offers an chance for conversation and camaraderie, it provides opportunities for fun, business and for friendship development."

In addition to the many tournaments the Alpine Golf Course hosts, people interested in golf can take lessons or attend clinics to strengthen skills. Lessons are \$25 per hour and, after four lessons, the fifth one is free. The clinics, called Link Up 2 Golf, are kept to six people per class and students receive eight hours of instruction.

Golfing since he joined the Air Force 20 years ago, Clark can offer some advice to beginners that he's learned from experience.

"Take a lesson, learn the rules and avoid playing early on the weekends as it will upset more seasoned players," he said. "It helps to buy good gear, too, as it does make a difference."

Other services offered here include a pro shop, access to a 24 hour, seven days a week driving range and practice facilities for chipping and putting.

"Our pro shop carries the latest golf merchandise such as clubs, clothing and a selection [of accessories] from most major golf manufactures," said Hobrecht. "We also have a demo program that allows customers to check out the latest clubs the industry offers before deciding to buy."

The Alpine Golf Course bases its green fees and cart rental costs on rank and whether the player is playing 9 or 18 holes. A complete list of fees and tournament and clinic schedules can be found at www.31svs-aviano.com.

Get on the dance floor: Learn how to salsa with the best of them at the community center. For more info, call Ext. 5479.

Aviano Ice Dragons put heat on the competition

The base varsity hockey team, the Aviano Ice Dragons, traveled to Garmish, Germany, recently to participate in the USAFE Ice Hockey championship tournament.

Representing Aviano were Ice Dragons Andy Ewert, Paul Thornton, Mark Boucher, Mike Defilippo, Eric Applen, Scott Bolster, Matt Doyle, Billy Kemper, Bill Bach and James Sanders.

After an important first win against the UK Warbirds, 4-2, the Ice Dragons went on to destroy the Garmish team, 16-1.

The next two games, however, didn't go as well for the Ice Dragons who were playing a short bench of nine skaters with only three practices together before the tournament. The team fell to the Baden Bruins, 5-0, and the Bitburg Bears, 8-1.

The team's sixth game in three days was against Ramstein for third place. The Ice Dragons dug deep to find the energy to compete in this game where there were four lead changes as the game went back and forth. In the final minutes, Ramstein sealed the win, 6-4.

"We fought hard right to the end but came up just a little short," said Thornton, Ice Dragons coach. "We were very disappointed that we didn't bring home some hardware, but we had a lot of fun playing

in the tournament despite the fourth place finish."

For the first time at the USAFE tournament, there was an All-Star game and a skills competition this year.

Five Ice Dragons were selected to play in the All-Star game; Ewert, Defilippo, Applen, Thornton and Bolster found themselves on the winning team with a final score of 9-2. Bolster, who played goalie, had 15 saves with zero goals allowed in the 22 minutes he played. The other Aviano players accounted for eight of the winning nine points.

In the skills competition, Thornton was the fastest skater with a time of 14.16 seconds, and Aviano won the shoot-out competition. Ewert was selected to the All-Tournament team as the best center out of the eight teams.

The Ice Dragons will soon lose two of its top players to PCS and will need new members with organized hockey experience to join in order to field a team next year. The hockey team's competition level is comparable to a U.S. high school team. Anyone who has played hockey in the past is encouraged to e-mail Paul Thornton at paul.thornton@aviano.af.mil, or call 346-009-8363. (Courtesy of the Aviano Ice Dragons)

Roll calls emphasize mission importance

**By Chief Master Sgt.
Charles Rambo
48th Maintenance Group**

Roll calls – why do we have them? Do we have roll calls because they're a formality? Do we have them because it has always been done that way? Do supervisors have roll calls to entrap subordinates reporting late?

Bill Cowher, coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, sat down and talked with his team before every practice, every game and, most of all, before Super Bowl XL to develop a winning game plan.

Was that decisive victory over the Seahawks happenstance? No – it was the culmination of a well-executed strategy developed during team meetings. As we execute the daily mission of the most feared and respected Air Force in the world, would we not do the same?

Roll calls are the foundation to open communication, high morale, accountability and the number one reason we are all here – mission accomplishment.

Over the course of my career, I have been assigned to a number of duty sections, some with high morale and open communication and unfortunately some with low morale and poor communication. As I look back at the different duty sections, one common denominator that distinguished duty sections bound for the super bowl versus those bound to watch the game from the sidelines were effective roll calls.

An effective roll call starts each duty day off in the right direction by allowing Airmen, junior

NCOs and senior NCOs the opportunity to get in the huddle to formulate a game plan and a clear vision of what is expected of each team member.

Roll calls ensure Airmen's priorities match their section chief's priorities, eliminating frustration, reducing the potential for poor performance and maximizing mission success.

When coaches express to their players that they care, it has a tremendous positive impact on morale. Before each shift, supervisors ask subordinates how they are doing and inspect their dress and appearance to ensure their Airmen are ready mentally as well as physically to perform their duties.

Once roll call is complete, a supervisor knows his or her team is capable of executing any mission. Roll calls ensure our Airmen know their supervisors are concerned for their welfare and value their contributions to the mission. In addition, Airmen understand that they will be expected to execute their portion of the game plan.

Roll calls are an excellent accountability tool. How many times have quarterbacks looked downfield for a receiver only to discover that the receiver was not at the appointed place on the field? How many times do we waste government resources due to missed appointments? Where did we drop the ball?

No matter how many players are assigned to your team, daily roll calls allow the effective supervisor to communicate his or her vision, bolster morale and schedule the day's tasks. Unlike the super bowl, the Global War on Terrorism is played every day – is your team ready?

Recognizing The World's Finest

• Congratulations to members of the **31st Operations Support Squadron, 555th Fighter Squadron** and the **510th Fighter Squadron** who won the 2005 USAFE Outstanding Aircrew Life Support Small Program of the Year award.

• Congratulations to the following Airmen for their outstanding completion of their Career Development Courses: **Senior Airman Jason McMillon**, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron and **Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Windham**, 31st Communications Squadron.

Graduates Airman Leadership School

sergeant selects must complete this 24-day course in order to obtain the title "supervisor." **Miracle Chambers**, 31st Aerospace Medical Squadron; **Alexis Monet Alexander**, 31st Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Leadership Award recipient; **Matthew Smith**, 31st Communications Squadron, Distinguished Graduate recipient; **Kristen Griego**, 31st CS; **Ualter Freitas**, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron; **Matthew Maguire**, 31st CES, Distinguished Graduate Award and Academic Award recipient; **Staff Sgt. Paul Pullins**, 31st Contracting Squadron, John Levitow Award recipient; **Tiawanna West**, 31st Dental Squadron; **Jennifer Price**, 31st Fighter Wing; **Shamera Coleman**, Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Adrian Garcia**, 31st LRS; **Julie Maki**, 31st LRS; **Keith Nelms**, 31st Maintenance Group; **Bradley Allen**, 31st Maintenance Squadron; **Timothee Debaghy**, 31st MXS; **Douglas Hamilton**, 31st MXS; **Bobby McMillian**, 31st MXS; **Xerona Moore**, 31st Mission Support Squadron; **Lance Howard**, 31st Security Forces Squadron; **Quintin Kindard**, 31st SFS; **David Rodriguez**, 31st SFS; **Brian Sheffield**, 31st SFS; **Martin Venegas**, 31st SFS; **Alma Dozier**, 31st Services Squadron; **Radoslaw Ciesielski**, 603rd Air Control Squadron; **Gregory George**, 603rd ACS; **Erick Dunn**, 704th Munitions Support Squadron; **Maurice Grant**, 704th MUNSS; **Frederick Sikes**, 704th MUNSS; **William Bowden**, 712th Munitions Squadron; **Fredric Rosario**, 724th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **Christopher Bunn**, 725th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **Cedrick Godwin**, 725th AMS and **William Smith**, 725th AMS.



The Cornerstone

An indispensable and fundamental basis

The Cornerstone Page is devoted to those who support junior enlisted, NCOs, CGOs and spouses. It's to share advice, ideas and opinions dealing with life in the Air Force and Aviano. It's also a forum to recognize those around us. The Cornerstone Page will also offer Air Force trivia and facts.

Submission info: We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with us and the community.

Commentaries: Writers can send commentaries to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words. Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Kudos: Aviano members can send congratulatory messages to Vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Messages can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Faxed articles will not be accepted by the staff. The public affairs office is in Bldg. 1360, Room 19.